

execute the budget, Mr. President. That is what the Constitution says.

I have advocated giving the President more authority. In the balanced budget amendment that I helped craft it has been the No. 1 amendment here on the floor of the Senate and in the House for well over 5 years. We have given the President a right to become a full participant in the budget process but he does not have that right now.

Yes, he can veto. But when he vetoes, it is without question his responsibility for the people who are no longer employed by action of that veto.

So we crafted another continuing resolution and he said, "I will veto it. Don't send it down," and it has not gone down.

Last night we passed a balanced budget for 1995.

This President says he will veto it. Mr. President, this is one Senator who is not going to bow to that kind of pressure. I will not vote for a goal or a concept or an ideal. And I encourage all of my colleagues not to vote that way either. We will vote for a balanced budget in 7 years and we will vote for it based on legitimate, legal, responsible figures that tell the truth and show the American public exactly what we are spending and where we are spending it and where the revenue to spend is coming from. That is what this Government and that is what this Congress must do, without question or without doubt.

For, if we do not, the clock continues to tick. A \$5 trillion debt, a \$5.1 trillion, \$5.2 trillion, a \$5.3 trillion, and on and on and on. And the children of tomorrow are going to owe, not \$15,000 or \$16,000 or \$17,000 of their earnings back to Government for the debt we created, it will be \$20,000 or \$25,000 or \$30,000 or \$40,000. The American people are smarter than that. How possibly can we continue to do that?

That is why we saw the greatest political realignment ever in the history of our country occur last November, because finally the American people said, "Enough is enough." Mr. President, hear me: I will not bow to the goal or the concept or the idea, because I know what you want. You have already indicated it. You want billions more to spend for programs that are questionable in their nature as to the services they provide.

The American people want a balanced budget. We have now labored nearly 11 months to craft a budget and bring it into that concept and into those parameters. It has not been just the Republicans that have done that; it is Republican and Democrat alike.

So I hope our leadership will not bend. I hope our leadership will listen to their people and listen to the phone calls. Adhere to a balanced budget. Adhere to the tough decisions. Say to this President, if you will not agree with us, then we will continue our work. We will not recess, as I have encouraged our leader not to do, and we will bring down the appropriations bills and we will fund a balanced budget.

I will tell you that is a gun to no one's head. That is simply what the American people want. The hand-wringing is over with. We have spent 30 years playing this game, and I sincerely believe the game is over. It is now time to realize we must do what the American people asked us to do and do so in a responsible fashion.

I yield the remainder of my time.

RECESS SUBJECT TO THE CALL OF THE CHAIR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess, subject to the call of the Chair.

Thereupon, at 5:02 p.m., the Senate recessed until 6:47 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. GORTON).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING RECESS

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 1995, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 18, 1995, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2020. An act making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain Independent Agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2126. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 4 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 440) to amend title 23, United States Code, to provide for the designation of the National Highway System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 123. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1996, and for other purposes.

At 6:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Goetz, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2606. An act to prohibit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense from being used for the deployment on the ground of United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of any peacekeeping operation, or as

part of any implementation force, unless funds for such deployment are specifically appropriated by law.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and sent times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2606. An act to prohibit the use of funds appropriated to the Department of Defense from being used for the deployment on the ground of United States Armed Forces in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of any peacekeeping operation, or as part of any implementation force, unless funds for such deployment are specifically appropriated by law; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PRESSLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1396. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for the regulation of surface transportation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

BUDGET RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE REPORT

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, yesterday, with the Senate's consideration of the Budget Reconciliation bill, the rubber really met the road. This is the real thing.

We have been warning for some time now that this bill would represent the extreme priorities set largely by the majority in the other House. The budget reconciliation bill which the conference set us—conference which effectively excluded Democrats—and which the Senate passed on near party lines, included a very large cut in Medicare. The \$270 billion cut is three times what is necessary to stabilize the trust fund. These plus a cap on direct student loans, reductions in the earned Income tax credit for working Americans, all, in part, are to pay for a large tax break, the benefits of which will go mainly to the wealthiest among us. There are a number of other short-sighted changes in Federal programs including cuts in child nutrition programs.

Mr. President, for the past week we have seen the Speaker of the House and Republican majority irresponsibly shut down large parts of the Government and threaten the credit rating of the United States. This is a long-planned tactic to force the President to accept their extreme budget priorities. Now, those priorities are laid bare in this bill for all to see.

The issue isn't whether one favors a balanced budget. I do. I have voted for one on more than one occasion.

Let us look at balance, as the Republicans have defined it. On the one side,